Conference Engrossed

FILED JANICE K. BREWER SECRETARY OF STATE

State of Arizona Senate Forty-seventh Legislature Second Regular Session 2006

CHAPTER 306

SENATE BILL 1486

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 40-243, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO CORPORATION COMMISSION ARBITRATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 40-243, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

40-243. <u>Conduct of hearings and investigations: representation</u> by corporate officer or employee

- A. All hearings and investigations before the commission or a commissioner shall be governed by this article, and by rules of practice and procedure adopted by the commission. Neither the commission nor a commissioner shall be bound by technical rules of evidence, and no informality in any proceeding or in the manner of taking testimony before the commission or a commissioner shall invalidate any order, decision, rule or regulation made, approved or confirmed by the commission. THE COMMISSION MAY ADOPT OR ADMINISTER ARBITRATION PROCEDURES TO RESOLVE COMPLAINTS OR DISPUTES BROUGHT BY A PARTY AGAINST A TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, EXCEPT THAT THE COMMISSION SHALL NOT SUBJECT A WIRELESS PROVIDER TO ARBITRATION UNLESS THE WIRELESS PROVIDER AND CUSTOMER CONSENT IN WRITING. THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT THE COMMISSION FROM ARBITRATING DISPUTES OR COMPLAINTS AGAINST A WIRELINE SERVICE PROVIDER, INVOLVING TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES CONTAINED IN THE BUNDLE OF SERVICES, TO THE EXTENT THE COMMISSION HAS JURISDICTION AS AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO THIS CHAPTER.
- B. Notwithstanding section 32-261, In a hearing or rehearing conducted pursuant to this article, a public service corporation may be represented by a corporate officer or employee who is not a member of the state bar if:
- 1. The corporation has specifically authorized the officer or employee to represent it.
- 2. The representation is not the officer's or employee's primary duty for the corporation but is secondary or incidental to such officer's or employee's duties relating to the management or operation of the corporation.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR MAY 31, 2006.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MAY 31, 2006.

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